'74 BASEBALL ISSUE

APRIL 11, 1974

The Sacramento Observer

Henry The King Of Swing ...

'I'D LIKE TO HIT 35 OR 40 MORE. . .MY GOAL IS 750'

The Day It Began

It all began on April 23, 1954. The Milwaukee Braves were playing the Cardinals in St. Louis, Vic Raschi, finishing up an illustrious pitching career - most of which he'd spent with the New York Yankess - gave up a fourth-inning home run.

And Henry Aaron had taken his first step toward baseball's "unbreakable" record - Babe Ruth's 714 career home runs.

The immortal Ruth captured the fancy of the American public during the Roaring 20's. He hit 467 home runs in that decade, including the 60 in 1927 that still stands as the record for a 154-game season. Roger Maris of the Yankees, hit 61 in 1961, a 162-game season.

Ruth, who died in New York of cancer in 1948, closed his career in Ruthian style, smashing his final three home runs in the same game when he was 40. Playing with the then Boston Braves, Ruth hit No. 712 off Red Lucas and added Nos. 713 and 714 off Guy Bush on May 25, 1965, at Pittsburgh.

Aaron reached the 700 mark last July 21, with a homer in Atlanta off Ken Brett of the Philadelphia Phillies.

He hit No. 705 off Reggie Cleveland at St. Louis Aug. 22, and No. 710 off San Francisco's Don Carrithers, Sept. 10.

With 20 days remaining in the season, it appeared that Aaron had a solid shot at tying the mark in his 20th season.

Henry went into a semi-slump, for a while home runs were sca-rce, He started comming around off the road trip.

The last week of the season in Atlanta, the Braves got rained out of a game against the Dodgers in which Claude Osteen had been scheduled to pitch. Osteen has yielded 13 homers to Aaron, standing second on the list only to his former Dodger teammate, Don Drysdale, who gave up 17.

Aaron set the stage for a dramatic last day when he belted No. 713 off Houston's Jerry Reuss on Sept. 29. The Braves closed the season against the Astros the next afternoon.

"Well, I feel like tomorrow probably will be the test I've been waiting for all these years," Aaron said after the homer off Reuss. "If I get a good pitch to hit, I'll show the world whether I'm a good hitter or not."

Aaron didn't offer at the only pitch he considered a good one that next day. Still, he extended a personal streak to six straight hits with three singles that raised his season average to .301.

As 40,517 fans cheered in the rain, Aaron lifted a weak pop fly to second in the bottom of the eighth inning.

When he went to left field for the ninth, fans rose in a long tribute to the man they knew would catch the Bambino a season later.

Aaron's assault on the game's most revered record accelerated when the Braves moved from Milwaukee to Atlanta in 1966.

At that time, Aaron had 398 homers, including 185 in Milwaukee's County Stadium, where he played a dozen seasons.

His first six home runs in an Atlanta uniform came on the road, the most notable being No. 400, a ninth-inning blast off Bo Belinsky at Philadelphia on April 20.

Nine days later, Altantas got their first look at what would become a familiar sight - Henry Aaron rounding the bases in a

graceful home-run trot.

Atlanta Stadium is ideal for Aaron. He had sprayed hits to all fields at Milwaukee. Now he became a pull hitter, shooting for the inviting target down the left-field line, 330 feet away.

It was 375 feet to the power alley in left center, near where his 500th sailed out and hit the message board July 14, 1968. It was hit off San Francisco's Mike McCormick.

Aaron hit only 29 homers in 1968, his lowest output in four years, but came back the following season to match his uniform number, 44, for the third time in his career.

It was apparent by then that Aaron indeed had a chance to catch the Babe.

With the arrival of the 1970s, Aaron began reaching milestones annually.

He became only the ninth player in history to collect 3,000 hits when he legged out an infield single behind second off Wayne Simpson on May 17, 1970, at old Crosley Field in Cincinnati.

He joined Ruth and Willie Mays as the only players with 600 home runs on April 27, 1971, when he smashed a 350-footer off San Francisco's Gaylord Perry in Atlanta.

Mays, later traded to the Mets, was in center field for the Giants that night and his 10th-inning single drove in the winning run.

"It was just another milestone," Mays said at the time. "What's a milestone to him? He's not going to stop there."

He didn't. His next target was Mays, a fellow Alabamian. Aaron trailed Willie by 33 home runs the night he hit No. 600. He tied Mays at 648 with a blast off Fred Norman of San Diego on May 31, 1972.

Aaron passed Mays 10 days later when he cracked No. 649 off Wayne Twitchell in Philadelphia. That homer had added significance. It tied the National League lead for grand-slam homers, held by Gil Hodges at 14.

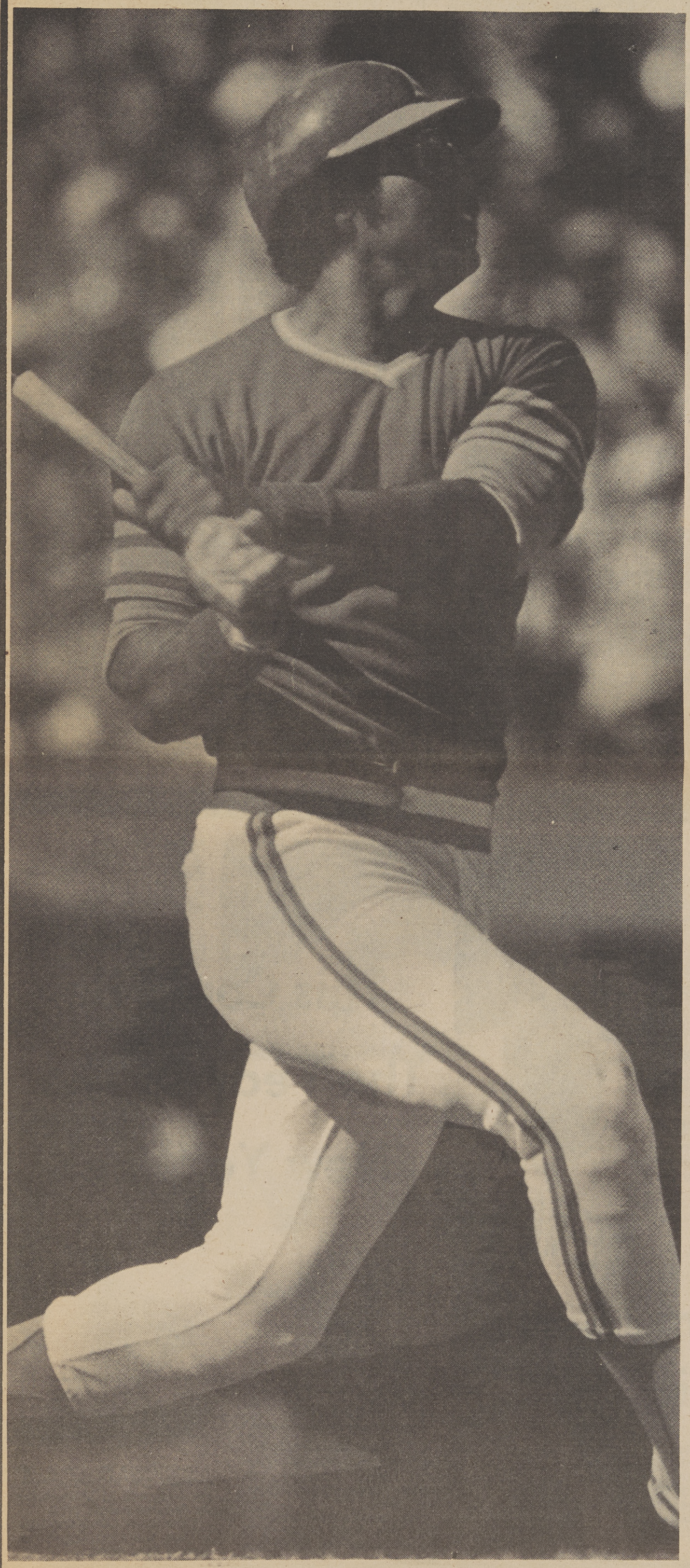
He often talked about the lack of publicity he received, compared with Mays and Mickey Mantle, both of whom benefited from the media concentration in New York.

Aaron no longer complains about that.

"This year has been confusing," he said last season. "I'm not used to all this attention."

That attention kept building as Aaron approached Ruth's mark. Writers and photographers from as far as Japan came to interview the man chasing the legend.

And now, after 20 years, Henry Louis Aaron, has caught it.



Reggie - Next King Of Swing

Whatever number the Atlanta Braves' slugger eventually puts up there for posterity, Reggie Jackson of the Oakland A's will mark it in his mind. Henry Aaron is on the threshold of history.

Reggie Jackson has taken only a few steps toward history, with 189 home runs at age 27, but in the faraway future, he looms as the player with the best opportunity of hitting more home runs than Henry Aaron does. Each is aware of the other.

When he was asked late last season which players he considered to be eventual threats to the career home run record, Aaron mentioned Jackson, but not immediately. He spoke first of other National League players, but each had a flaw.

"Johnny Bench," he said, "but if he stays a catcher, I don't know."

Aaron paused for a moment. In the silence, somebody mentioned Bobby Bonds, the San Francisco Giants' centerfielder.

"The reason I hesitate about Bonds," explained Aaron, "is because of the ball-park he hits in. The winds in Candlestick Park make it hard to hit home runs. I've seen Bonds hit balls there that should've gone out, but the wind kept them in the ballpark.

"The secret of being successful is being healthy," said Aaron, healthy through virtually all of his 20 seasons. "Stargell and McCovey have had the misfortune of getting hurt."

"How about in the American League?" he was asked.

"The only guy over there is Reggie Jackson," said Aaron, "and he could be the biggest threat."

Reggie Jackson thinks of himself as a threat too.

"I don't think about the record," the A's outfielder said shortly after his World Series heroics, "I dream about it."

"I've got 189," he said, "and if I'm 37 with 300 to go, I've got a shot at it. To do that, I need about 370 in the next 10 years, that's an average of 37 a year."

"Why not try to average 40 a year?" he was asked.

"There's a big difference between 37 homeruns a year, and 40 homers a year. But if I can get 370 in the next 10 years, I wouldn't retire. I'd stay to try to break the record."

"That would mean I'd need less than 200, depending on how many Henry finishes with. That would really be something, to break that record. But that's a long way off. I've got to be lucky, I can't have any bad injuries. And I've got to keep having big years."

Jackson has hit 189 homers in his first six seasons, compared to Aaron's 179 his first seasons. But there's an important difference. Jackson is 27 now, Aaron was only 25 after his first six seasons. By the time he was 27 years old, Aaron had hit 253 home runs.

"To appreciate what Henry has done," Jackson said, "think of it this way - to hit 713 home runs, he's averaged more than 35 a year for 20 years. That's 20 years."

First Swing

Of the 19 pitches Aaron saw that afternoon in Riverfront Stadium, the fifth had his number on it, 714.

Swinging smoothly, he lifted the ball over the left field fence with his first swing on his first time at bat in the first inning to tie Babe Ruth.

The Cincinnati pitcher was right-hander Jack Billingham. Aaron's 714th career home run drifted to the left of the 375-foot sign identifying the power alley in left field and dropped out of sight.

It was 2:40 p.m., in Cincinnati.

It was the first day of the 1974 baseball season. It was Hank Aaron's 21st as an outfielder for the Braves.

And now, no one else has hit as many home runs as Aaron. Only Ruth, Aaron and Willie Mays, have hit as many as 600. Mays called it a day on 660. Ruth retired one week after he had parlayed his last three home runs in one afternoon at the age of 40, Aaron, at 40, is still looking ahead.

"I feel like I can 35 or 40 this year," he said Thursday. "My goal is 750."

The Reds ended up winning the opener on a wild pitch in the 11th inning, 7-6, before a crowd of 52,154, including the first-ball pitcher, Vice President Gerald R. Ford.

Billingham, 31, the former Dodger relief pitcher who became Cincinnati's favorite starter last year, said:

"Aaron hit a mistake. It was a fastball, low and outside, that didn't sink."

Gamely, Billingham pitched to Aaron again in the third inning, getting him on a grounder, but was startled to hear himself booed in his own park in the fifth after walking Bad Henry on four throws.

"That was the smartest thing I could have done," said Billingham. "He was swinging the bat good and I wasn't having a good day."

The home run came in Aaron's 2,965th major league game.

Ruth played in 2,503 games.

Aaron has had 2,890 more times at bat, and has averaged 35.5 homers a year to 32.4 for Ruth.

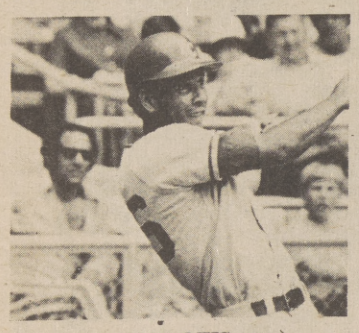
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Outlook for '74

WESTERN DIVISION

KANSAS CITY
ROYALS

The Royals who made it somewhat of a race in the American League West in 1973, will make it an even tighter race with a healthy Chicago.

The Royals were in and out of first up until all star broke last year and finished 6 games out behind Oakland.



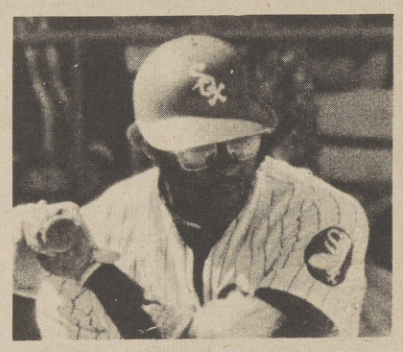
AMOS OTIS

MINNESOTA
TWINS

The Twins had considerably good pitching but not enough clutch hitting.

If the Twins can remove the high teams total of strikeouts (954) and hit in the right place.

They could be the free swing and hitting club of the past.

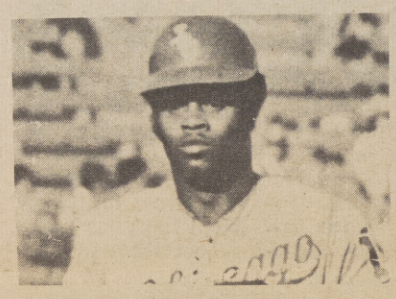


DICK ALLEN

CHICAGO
WHITE SOX

The White Sox with a healthy Dick Allen returning to the line the Chicago White Sox appear to be the team to give the A's a real run.

With help from Bill Melton and Carlos May it will be a fight until late September.



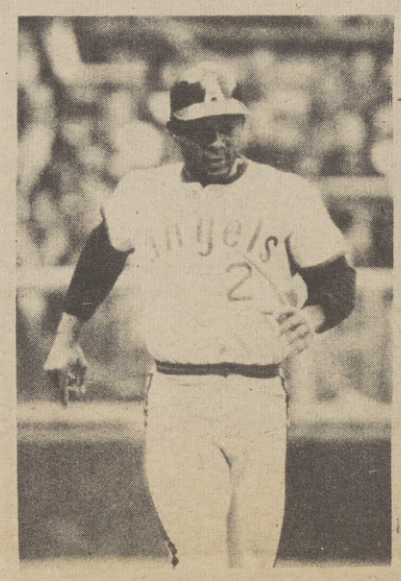
CARLOS MAY

CALIFORNIA
ANGELS

In 1973, the Angels were a three-man team, flame thrower Nolan Ryan, (383 strikeouts) Frank Robinson (2nd in homeruns a 30 and fifth in RBI with 97 and Bill Singer.

If they can acquire some bull pen help.

With some strong additions they could make a lot of trouble in 1974.



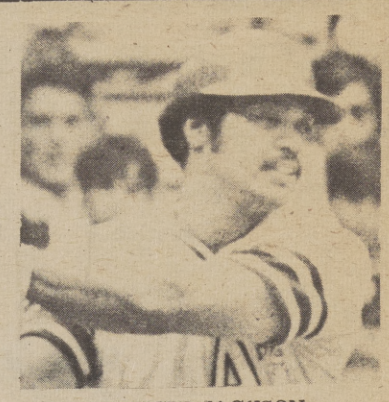
SANDY ALOMAR

OAKLAND
ATHLETICS

The Oakland A's are young highly poised and capable of spectacular performances, and even more important, unstoppable under pressure.

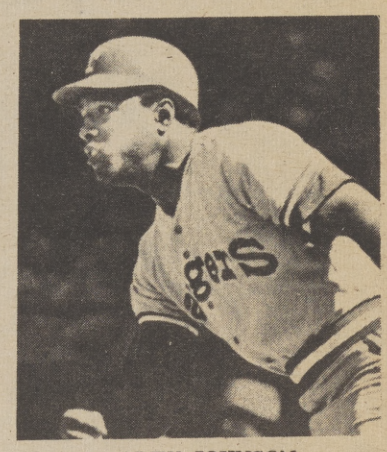
Even with all their controversies all over the place, they win.

No matter who the new pilot is they will more than likely repeat as world champions.



REGGIE JACKSON

JOHN MAYBERRY

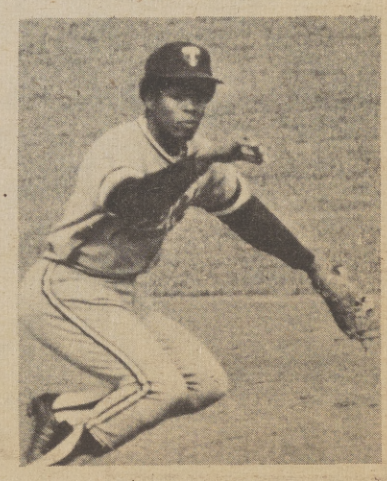


ALEX JOHNSON

TEXAS
RANGERS

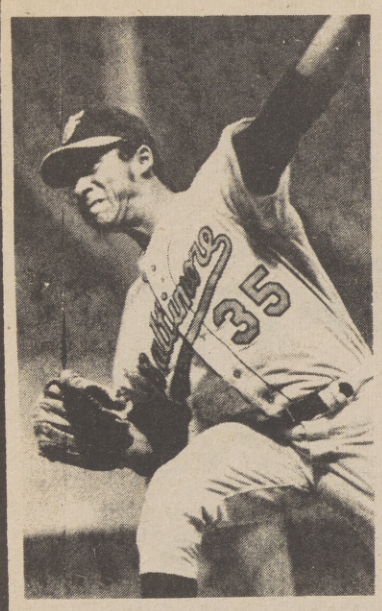
The Texas Rangers are getting younger.

They could make games for others in their division harder to win.



ROD CAREW

EASTERN DIVISION



MIKE CUELLAR

NEW YORK
YANKEES

If anyone is to have anything to say about the Orioles winning anything it will be the young powerful New York Yankees.

With another year of experience under their belt, could pull it off.

BALTIMORE
ORIOLES

The Orioles with some revitalizing in their pitching arms and an all around health club, will be even more powerful than two years ago.

They look to be not only division winners, but league as well.

BREWERS

With one more consistent pitcher the Brewer's could be a contender.

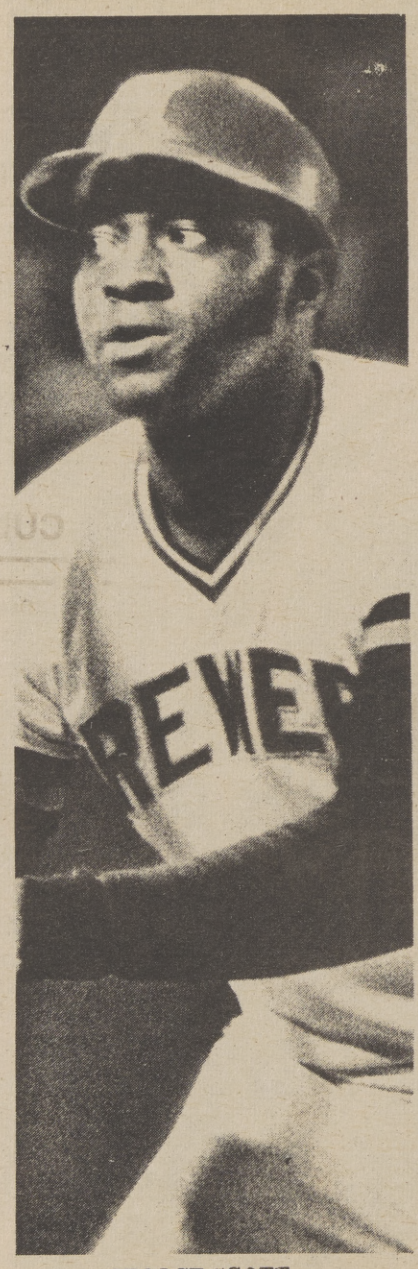
The acquisition of Clyde Wright and Ken Berry could be that one two-punch they have lacked.

LUIS TIANT

BOSTON
RED SOX

The Boston Red Sox will have to come up with more than just the bit sticks this year.

With the bull pen in tack, the American League at last will be a hot one.



GEORGE SCOTT

This Could Be The Year Of The 'New Yankees'

CLEVELAND
INDIANS

Like most teams really losing you need good pitching and good hitting. Last year, the Indians had good hitting then best in 11 years.

With Gaylord Perry's brother, Jim, being picked up in the off season they could have that too!

DETROIT
TIGERS

Even though the Tigers are probably the oldest team man for man, with Al Kaline filling the designated hitter rold.

Some clutch hitting they lacked last year. The Tigers will make a lot of noise.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Outlook for '74

WESTERN DIVISION

LOS ANGELES
DODGERS

HENRY AARON

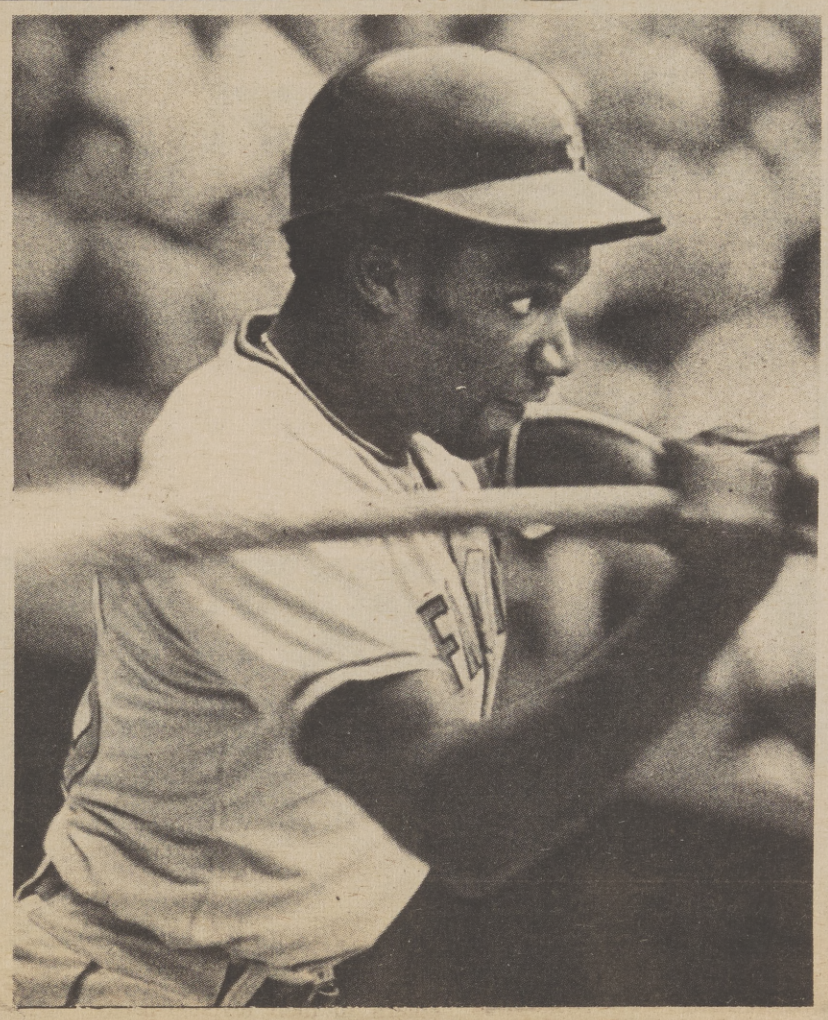
SAN FRANCISCO
GIANTS

CINCINNATI
REDS

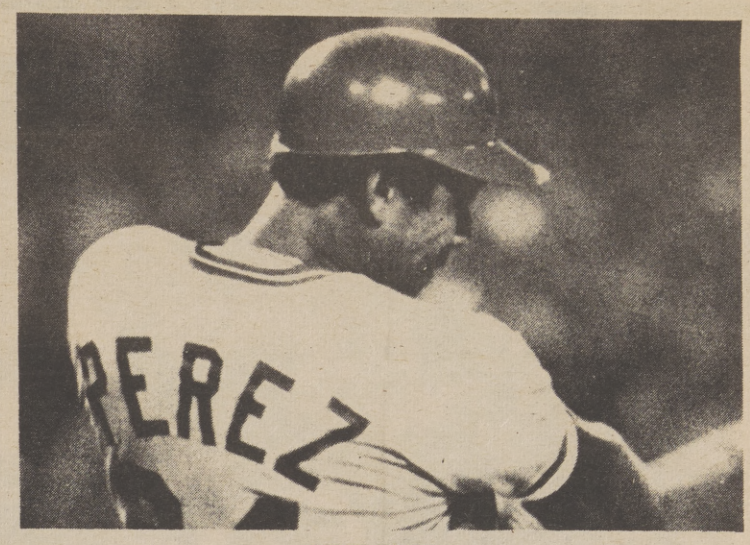
HOUSTON
ASTROS

ATLANTA
BRAVES

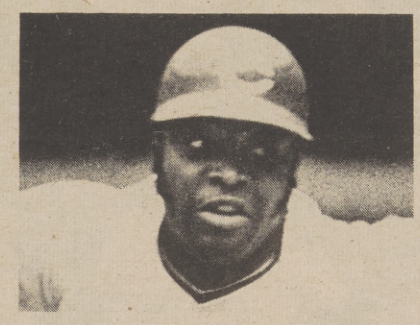
SAN DIEGO
PADRES



BOBBY BONDS



TONY PEREZ

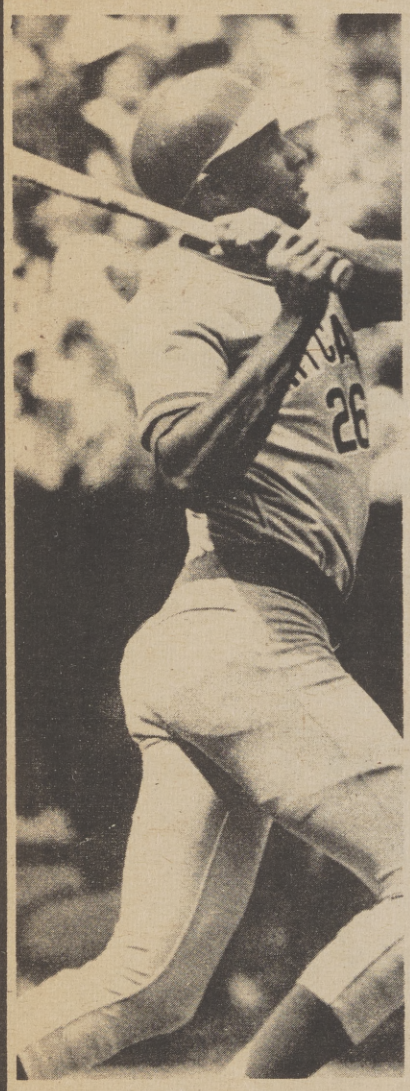


JOE MORGAN

LEE MAY

CEASAR CEDENO

EASTERN DIVISION



BILLY WILLIAMS

MANNY SANGUILLEN

BOB GIBSON

AL OLIVER

PITTSBURGH
PIRATES

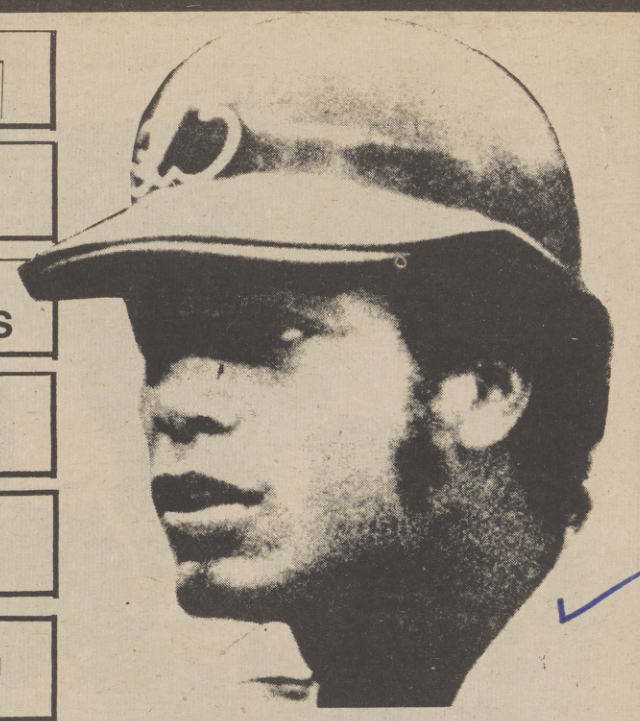
NEW YORK
METS

ST. LOUIS
CARDINALS

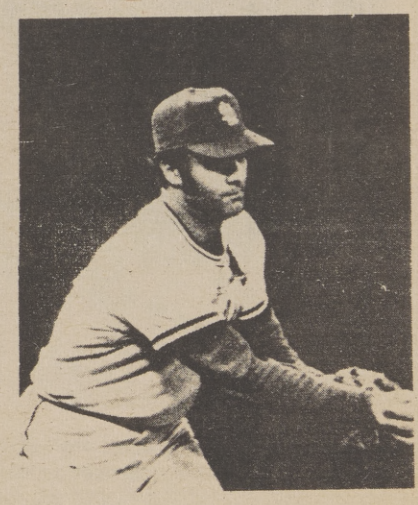
MONTREAL
EXPOS

CHICAGO
CUBS

PHILADELPHIA
PHILLIES



KENNY SINGLETON



JOE TORRE

A Tighter Division

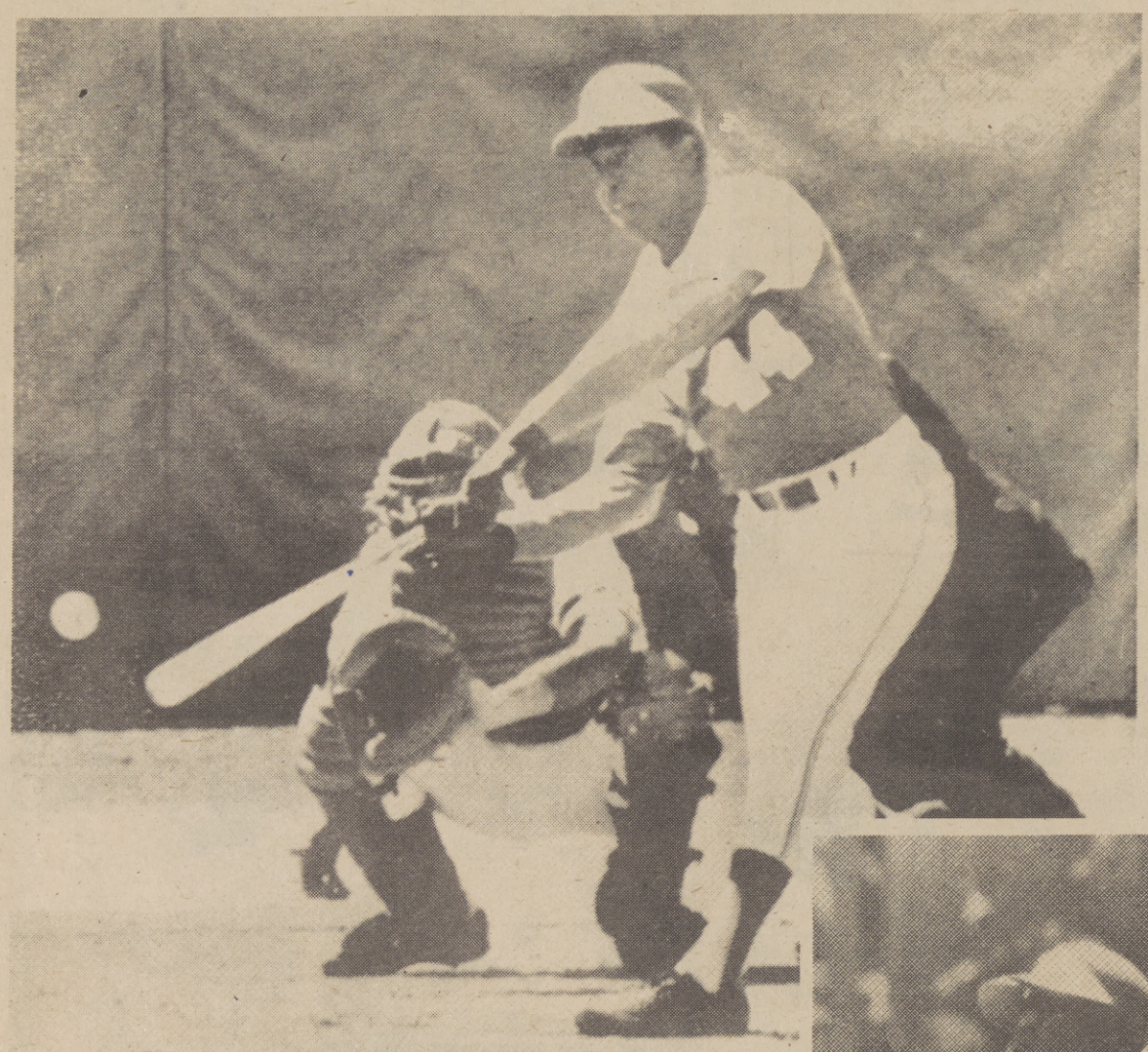
The National East Division is sure to find the Mets making more believers out of their own players.

Their opponents already believe!

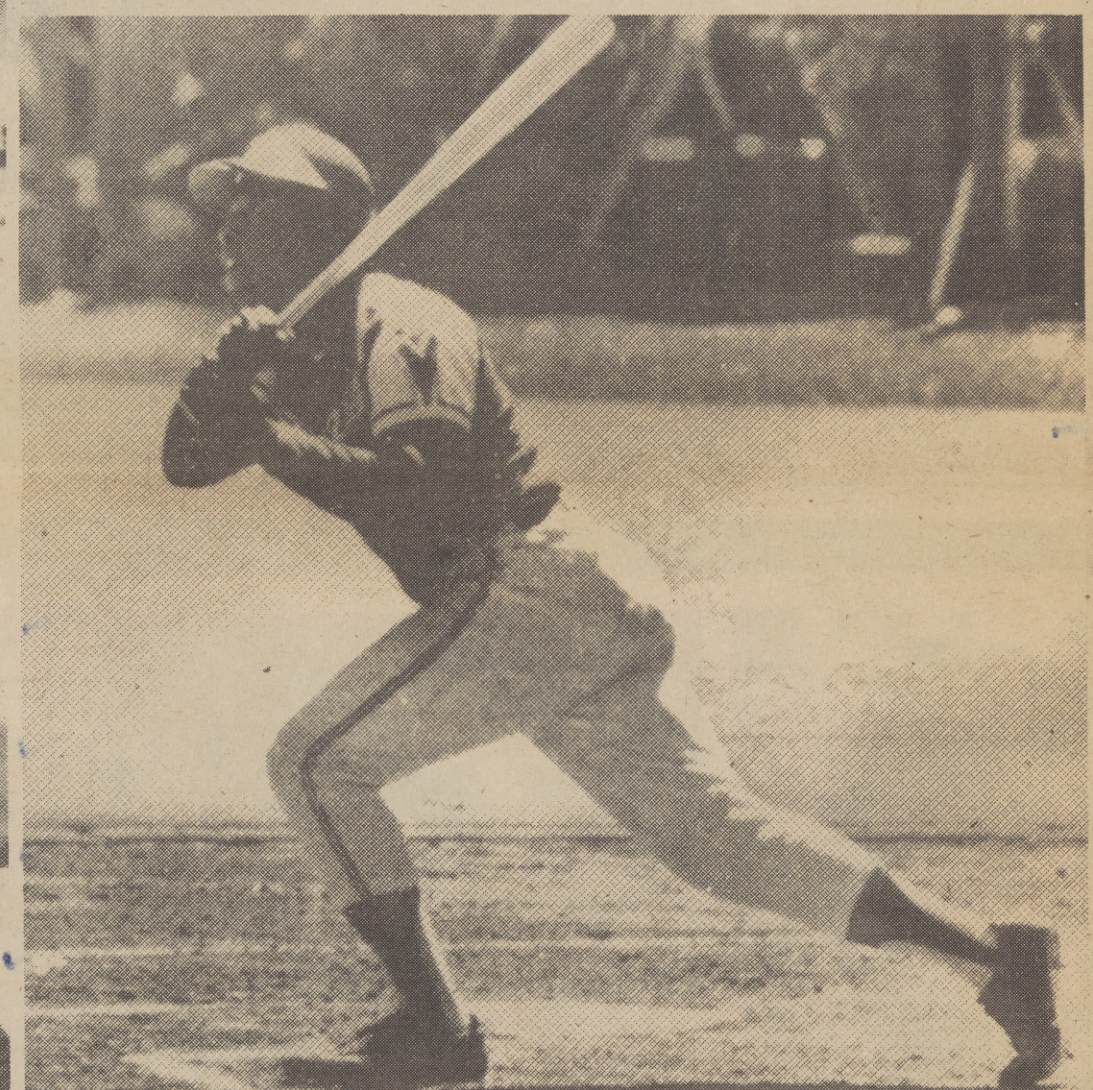
St. Lous should pull up in second with a sound club.

The Pirates still lack that consistent pitching.

Some trades have made them unsettled on the bench, but if one more strong starter can be picked up, they'll cause some trouble.



The Pitch...



...The Swing

And No. 714

THE SACRAMENTO OBSERVER fields its second softball team, and this year looks like an improvement already. Last year's team won their division by swinging to a 9-1 record. Most of last year's starters are back, in addition the team has picked up two speedy outfielders to shape up their weak spots. So look for THE SACRAMENTO OBSERVER Women's Softball Team, managed by MADERIO CANNON, and assisted by MARVIN BOWENS to come up with an exciting season. Check us out.

The Sport For Everybody

Hundreds of women's teams play softball in the local parks very year. The games are always interesting and exciting.

Even though it may look as if they miss all the action, this is where it all begins the super stars of tomorrow.

Some of them dream of one day taking that big swing or throwing a blazing fast ball.

Howard Thomas, above gives the little ballplayers a few fundamental's on fielding. It takes men like Howard and other in each neighborhood to give the kids the time and helpfull hints

GIANT's SCHEDULE

AT HOME

CHICAGO.....	June 11*, 12, 13 Aug. 23*, 24, 25
MONTREAL.....	Apr. 23*, 24 May 19*, 20, 21, 21
NEW YORK.....	Apr. 26*, 27, 28, 28 May 16*, 17
PHILADELPHIA..	Apr. 30* May 1 July 12*, 13, 14, 14
PITTSBURGH.....	June 7*, 8, 9 Aug. 27*, 28, 29

ST. LOUIS.....	June 4*, 5, 6 Aug. 30*, 31 Sept. 1
ATLANTA.....	May 21*, 21*, 22 Aug. 3, 4, 4 Sept. 16, 17*, 18
CINCINNATI.....	Apr. 8, 9*, 10 Aug. 1*, 2* Sept. 19*, 20*, 21, 22
HOUSTON.....	Apr. 5, 6, 7 Aug. 5, 6* Sept. 13*, 14, 15, 15
LOS ANGELES....	May 23*, 24*, 25, 26 June 28*, 29, 30 Sept. 11*, 12*
SAN DIEGO.....	May 17*, 18, 19, 19 July 2*, 3, 4 Oct. 1*, 2

AT HOME

CALIFORNIA	April 19*, 20, 21 June 24*, 25*, 26 Sept. [2], 3*, 4*
MINNESOTA	May 10*, 11, 12 July 25*, 26*, 27 Sept. 24*, 25*, 26*
KANSAS CITY	May 13*, 14 TN June 20*, 21*, 22, 23 Sept. 9 TN
TEXAS	April 13, 14-14 July 30*, 31 Sept. 5*, 6*, 7, 8
CHICAGO	April 15*, 16*, 17* July 28-28, 29* Sept. 27*, 28, 29

OAKLAND A's SCHEDULE

BALTIMORE	May 6*, 7*, 8* July 5*, 6, 7
NEW YORK	June 14*, 15, 16 Aug. 12*, 13*, 14*
BOSTON	June 17*, 18*, 19* Aug. 9*, 10, 11

MILWAUKEE	May 31*, June 1, 2 Aug. 19*, 20*, 21*
DETROIT	May [27], 28*, 29* Aug. 15*, 17, 18
CLEVELAND	May 3*, 4, 5-5 July 8*, 9*

Welcome Back Solons

"Ticket Sales in our outlets have been so good that we have already had to open five additional agencies," declared Mike Cloutier, Director of Sales for the Sacramento Solons this week.

Cloutier also said that some of the ticket agencies have requested more Souvenir Opening Night tickets, which sell at $2 for adults and $1.50 for youngsters 16 and under; Bargain Books, which contain 25 general admissions for $40; and Junior Boosters Season Passes, which are season tickets for those 16 and under and are priced at $20.

The new Solons ticket outlets are Sargent's Sport Shop, at 5002 Freeport Blvd.; The Stix 7108 24th St.; Edward F. Merten, CLU, 1503 21st St.; B&R Baseball, 2695 Florin Rd.; and Rexall Drugs, 5600 Watt Ave., in North Highlands.

The five new locations bring the total to 17 for the Solons tickets. The original twelve are Men's Ltd. in the Country Club and Southgate Centers; Springer Bottle Shops, at 2328 West Capitol Ave., 7826 Fair Oaks Blvd., 10469 Folsom Blvd., and 4449 Broadway; CVV Sporting Goods, 7973 Auburn Blvd.; Georgian's, 1901 J St.; Sargent's Sport Shop North in Carmichael's Crestview Center; Strickley's Thred Shed, 5693 Stockton Blvd.; South Sacramento Sports Shop, 4106 Franklin Blvd.; and the Rhodes Box Office at County Club Center.

Mayor Richard Marriott will be on hand when the long-awaited return of the Solons becomes a reality at 8:15 a.m., Tuesday morning, when the team arrives from Hawaii aboard United Air Lines at the Metropolitan Airport.

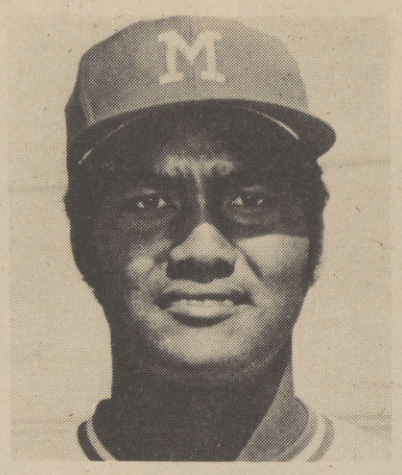
The Solons Boosters Club will present a "Great Our Team" no-host breakfast at 7:00 a.m., Tuesday at the Host of Sacramento Hotel at the airport, featuring the Mayor as the guest speaker, according to Carroll Root, President of the Boosters.

"We are anticipating a crowd of about 1,000 to welcome the team to its new home," said Carroll. "We know that the entire community will want to get behind the team from the moment they first come down the ramp and set foot in Sacramento."

The Sacramento Youth Band, winners of awards throughout the state, will provide a fanfare of music for the homecoming affair. The band will be under the direction of W. Russell Klein.

Solons General Manager John Carbray said he expects the airport welcome to typify the enthusiasm the Solons' return has received thus far. He also commented that there are plenty of tickets left for the Solons' home opener Tuesday night at 7:30 against the defending league champion Spokane Indians.

"In the heat of all the enthusiasm," said Carbray, "word somehow spread that we were sold out. This is not true. We can seat 17,600 for baseball at Hughes Stadium, and we have plenty of seats left."



CARLOS VELAZQUEZ

Solon No Hitter

The Sacramento Solons ended the spring Cactus League Campaign at 13-4 Monday, with a 6-0 no-hit decision over Tuscon.

Larry Anderson, the big 6 foot 3, 190-pounder, got credit for the wins as he went five innings and then gave way to Bill Castro.

During Anderson's five innings, he fanned four and gave up just one walk.

Castro put two men on base during his one inning of work when his pitches couldn't find the mark.

He pitched out of the jam, however, by striking out two.

Carlos Velazquez went the final two frames, striking out four without issuing a walk.

The Men In Black

An umpire has complete control over enforcing the rules of the game.

Umpires have the right to eject any player, and sometimes fans from the game.

Most umpires are appointed by the league, and his ruling based on judgement is final. But the umpire's ruling, based on the rules, and questioned by the manager, may be appealed directly to the umpire in question.

If the umpire feels it necessary, he may then ask another umpire's advice.

If this is not satisfactory to the manager or team in question, they may then file a formal protest under the league president.

He will review the circumstances and decide on the steps to be taken.

Even with complete control over enforcing the rules of the game, umpires constantly find themselves under fire from fans players, managers, and at times, the press.

Without the men in Black, the game baseball, would not be the sport that it is . . .

Sacramento Solons

OFFICIAL 1974
PACIFIC COAST
LEAGUE
SCHEDULE

Hughes Stadium

SEASON TICKETS

SEASON BOX	$150.00
72 games @ 3.00 ... $216.00 - save	66.00
SEASON RESERVED	$120.00
72 games @ 2.50 ... $180.00 - save	60.00
BOOK	$ 40.00
25 games @ 2.00 ... $50.00 - save	10.00
JUNIOR BOOSTER	$ 20.00
72 games season ticket 16 or under	

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Haw.	12 Haw.	13 Haw.
14 Haw.	15 Haw.	16 Spo	17 Spo	18 Spo	19 Spo	20 Spo
*21 Tac.	22 Tac	23 Tac	24 Tac.	25 Tac.	26 Spo.	* 27 Spo.
O* 28 Spo.	29	30				

MAY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Haw.	3 Haw	4 Haw
* 5 Haw	6 Haw	7	8 Tac.	9	O 10 Tac.	11 Tac.
*12 Tac.	13 Alb	14 Alb	O 15 Alb	16 Alb	17 Alb	18 SLC
O * 19 SLC	20 SLC	21 SLC	22 SLC	23	24 Pho.	O 25 Pho.
26 Pho.	* 27 Pho.	28 Pho.	29 Tuc.	O 30 Tuc.	31 Tuc.	

* Day Games O Doubleheaders

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 Tuc.
2 Tuc.	# 3 Milw	4 Tac	5 Tac	6 Tac	7 Tac	8 Tac
9 Haw.	10 Haw.	11 Haw.	12 Haw.	13 Haw	14 Spo	15 Spo
16 Spo	17 Spo	18 Spo	19 Tac.	20 Tac.	21 Tac.	22 Tac
* 23 Tac.	24	25 Haw	26 Haw	27 Haw	28 Haw	29 Haw
O * 30 Spo.						

JULY

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1 Spo.	2 Spo.	3 Spo.	4 Spo.	5 Pho	O 6 Pho
7 Pho	8 Pho	9 Pho	10 Tuc	11 Tuc	O 12 Tuc	13 Tuc
14 Tuc	15	## 16 Tac.	17 SLC	18 SLC	O 19 SLC	20 SLC
21 SLC	22 Alb.	23 Alb.	O 24 Alb.	25 Alb.	26 Alb.	27 Spo.
28 Spo.	29 Spo.	30 Spo.	31 Spo.			

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 Spo.	2 Tac.	3 Tac.
4 Tac.	5 Tac.	6 Tac.	7 Tac	8 Haw.	9 Haw.	10 Haw
11 Haw.	12 Haw.	13 Haw.	14	15 Spo	16 Spo	17 Spo
18 Spo	19 Spo	20 Spo	21 Tac.	22 Tac.	23 Tac.	24 Tac.
* 25 Tac.	26 Tac.	27	28 Haw	29 Haw	30 Haw	31 Haw

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 Haw	2 Haw	3	4	5	6	7

FOLLOW THE SOLONS ON RADIO KGMS 1380

☐ Home Games ☐ Away Games

HOME GAME STARTING TIMES
Day, single games and doubleheaders: 1:45 p.m.
Night, single games: 7:30 p.m.
doubleheaders: 6:30 p.m.

Milwaukee Brewers
PCL All-Star Game at Tacoma

MR. D's PRESENTS...

'BLACK MAGIC'

This Thur. thru Sun.

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BACHELORS and PLAYERS NITE
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MR. D's

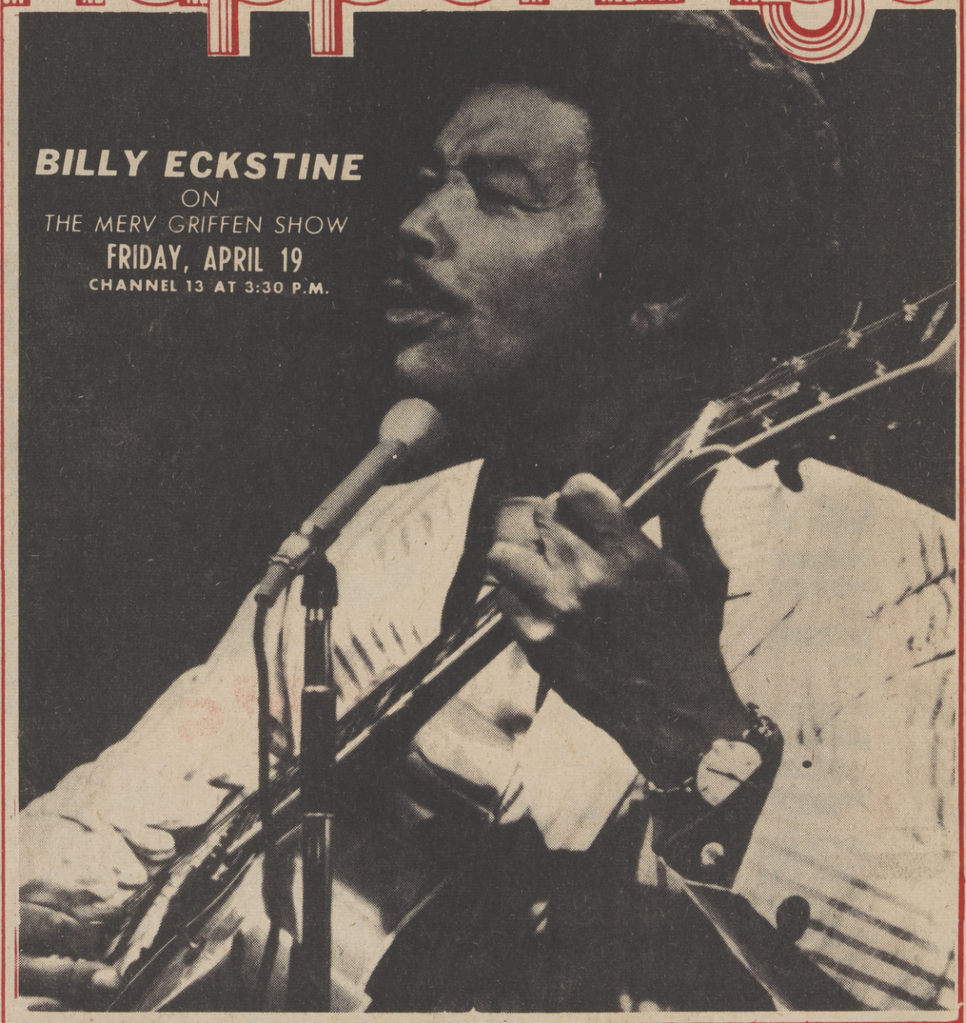
4340 Stockton Blvd., Sacramento, Calif.

The Sacramento Observer

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

APRIL 13
APRIL 19

the happenings



RECORD AND MOVIE REVIEWS · BLACKS ON TV · LIVELY ARTS

ON THE GO WITH COCOA

"THE LAST DAYS," according to which Christianity believes is at hand, our remaining days on this planet are numbered . . . the world is come to an end . . . the last days, etc. . . . To this columnist and five suave young men, "The Last Days" are the beginning of infinity.

For Piscian Steve Owens of Marysville, Virgo Ron Swift, Reggie McMillian a Saggitarian and both from Sacramento and Fred Edwards the groups Cancer who hails from Kansas City, the creative beginnings are just happening, to this group that have only been together less than seven months. Under the management of E. Jack, the group has been featured guests at Mr. D's with Frankie Lee, Marvin Holmes & Justice. It was at that club, "TLD," walked off with 1st prize in the Annual Musicians Convention. Their interpretation of The Natural Four's "Can This Be Real," led to a standing ovation of Al Wilson's "Show and Tell."

Their fan following extends from Chico to Merced. They, like the music they produce, is definitly establishing themselves in the most creative sphere we call earth. When not performing it is a world of breathing, sleeping and eating the top '40,' discussing arrangements and practicing in depth dance routines.

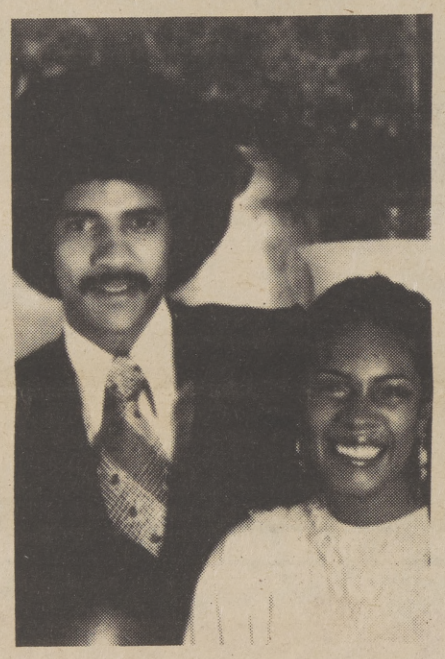
"Shades of Jade," their backup group has helped make this vocal group one of the greatest to emerge from Northern California in a decade.

Definitely keep your ears open for "THE LAST DAYS," which are the beginning of the beginning of many tomorrows.

WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY defines supreme as "the highest in excellence," which I feel best describes three very talented, beautiful and sensitive women who celebrate over a decade of epitomizing singular style, talent and excellence in everything they do . . . who else but MARY WILSON, CINDY BIRDSONG, and SCHERRIE PAYE. We recently caught their San Francisco opening at the very quaint Fairmont Hotel (our thanks to Linda Finch), and have found that the years have mellowed the great performances of The Supremes, only to enhance their listening audiences to a closer communication with song, feel, and 'touch.' They opened their show with the popular "T.C.B." moving very swiftly into "Stop In The Name Of Love," and "Once In My Life." From a pulsating Cabaret medley into the ever popular "Be Myself," and "I'll Take You There," both by the Staple Singers, the course of the evening was set. We would have to agree very whole heartedly that 'The Supremes' give a fantastic experience in song, and although it is hard to sit back and relax, one does find his or her foot keeping time to the beat. From Mary's interpretation of "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," to the groups beautiful blending of voices on "Touch," such a very special touch . . . . to end their set some fifty minutes later taking everyone on a "Love Train," truly a wonderous experience being entertained royaly by the number one female singing groups in the world. Miss Payne adds delightful talent to the group, proving once again the Payne sisters have what it takes to be on top. Cindy and Mary are just as great as the last time we heard them together. On records, on television but especially in person, The Supremes are SOULTANTASTIOUS!!!!!!

BY PHONE I have been invited to attend the very private wedding ceremonies of MARY WILSON and PEDRO FERRER in Las Vegas on May 7th. Miss Wilson, as everyone knows - is the only original member of the famed Supremes, that just recently closed at The Fairmont Hotel and are now appearing in Las Vegas. Her fiance, Pedro, is from Puerto Rico where he attended the national University majoring in law. At present, he is road manger for the group, and does plan to resume his career in law at UCLA upon the groups return from Japan, this spring. Mary will be attended by her sister Kathleen as Maid of Honor.

THE HIRED HANDS RAY, RON, TAL, THEO, GEO.



PEDRO FERRER, MARY WILSON

THE SUPREMES
SCHERRIE, CINDY, MARY

"WILLIE DYNAMITE," A Zanuck/Brown Production for Universal, starring Roscoe Orman as the powerful New York pimp, is seen as he parades through the street with his stable of prostitutes. The late Diana Sands and Thalmus Rasulala also star in this informative flic, soon to appear in the Camellia City area.

Now appearing through April 20th, at the San Francisco Playboy Club, is actor/ comedian STU GILLIAM along with songstress KIM WILLIAMS. Miss Williams was a complete delight. She has appeared in 'Black Gunn' opposite Jim Brown and 'Coffey' opposite Pam Grier. We especially enjoyed her interpretation of "Song For You." Gilliam, is best remembered for his roll in the TV series "Roll Out," started in show business as a ventriloquist and then on to becoming a full fledged comedian. His is a show that must not be missed. Wayne Wilkinson is the general manager, and has invited keyholders to use their club. There's also dancing to the sounds of the exciting "Pride and Joy" in the Bunny Hutch.

A NIGHT ON the town should include ZORBA's on the K Street Mall in the heart of Camellia City. Peforming nightly (with the exception of the Big Star Policy-LILY TOMLIN is next) are authentic belly dancers and Zorba himself 'NICK GALOXIDAS doing his famous table dance. Greek and American food are served, reservations are advisable.

AS ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR of the Nation's most honored Black Newspaper, it gives me great pleasure to introduce the sensational sounds of "THE HIRED HANDS." Five very talented and dedicated individuals, each a giant in his own respective. Together lasting friendship and superb musicianship form the nucleus of this group. They are reliable, dependable and to the point . . . on time! I like to feel, as a music critic and entertainment editor of THE SACRAMENTO OBSERVER, that my relationship with "THH," is unique, trustworthy and full of the qualities club owners expect from entertainment groups.

The group is composed of bassist RON DE GREE a former stock race driver and member of the Bond Street Express. Saxist RAY MOSLEY has toured Europe with Taj Mahal. Drummer, GEORGE KEITH is better known for his craft with Eugene Blacknell and the New Breed. Organist TALMADGE GRUNDY was voted Musician of the Year in 1973, by the New Image in Jazz foundation in Los Angeles and was also a 1974 Grammy Nominee. Lead guitarist THEODIS EALEY has performed with BILL HEMMANS and Ealey's recording of "I'll Be There," is receiving national radio time, as well as top forty placement on record charts.

Together less than seven weeks, "THE HIRED HANDS," are a combination of dedication, and perserverance that bring new dimensions to the art of their superb playing. Their music is refreshing, it is soothing, it is sublime, but most important, "The Hired Hands" are yesterday, are tomorrow and very definitely NOW!!!!!

Give without remembering, take without forgetting.

The Sacramento Observer
ENTERTAINMENT the GUIDE happenings

WILLIAM H. LEE - Publisher
G. COCOA WALTHER — Entertainment Editor

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JAZZ IN REVIEW By MICHAEL Y. CORBETT

Blakey And The Jazz Messengers

Every art has it legendary heroes, many of them continuing in the realm of immortality, and Black Classical Music is no exception. Yet while it is true that individuals seem to get more attention than groups, with a few notable exceptions, the mere mention of "The Jazz Messengers" evokes immediate enthusiasm from not a few Black Music enthusiasts.

That is not to say, however, that the Messengers have remained as a specific group of musicians; rather, it is the fact that the original Jazz Messengers were so fantastically tight and competent, that their name commands respect.

Not a small portion of this respect is due to Mr. Art Blakey, drummer extraordinaire and a musician with some very, very deep roots. Thus it was no surprise to many when his group came to be known as Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers, an appellation that continues to this very day.

In fact, Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers have just released a new album entitled "Anthenagin" (Prestige, (P-10076) and it is a collection of extremely conesive cuts. And as always, Art is right in the middle of things - directing, moving, pacing and interweaving as only he can do.

ART BLAKEY

Yet there is another reason for the album musical richness, and that is the presence of some very competent and well-seasoned personnel. There are no rookies on "Anthenagin." For in addition to Blakey, there is Woody Shaw (trumpet); Carter Jefferson (tenor sax); Cedar Wlaton (piano); Mickey Bass (Bass); Tony Waters, (conga); Steve Turley (trombone); and Michael Howell is present with his guitar on the cut entitled "Along Came Betty."

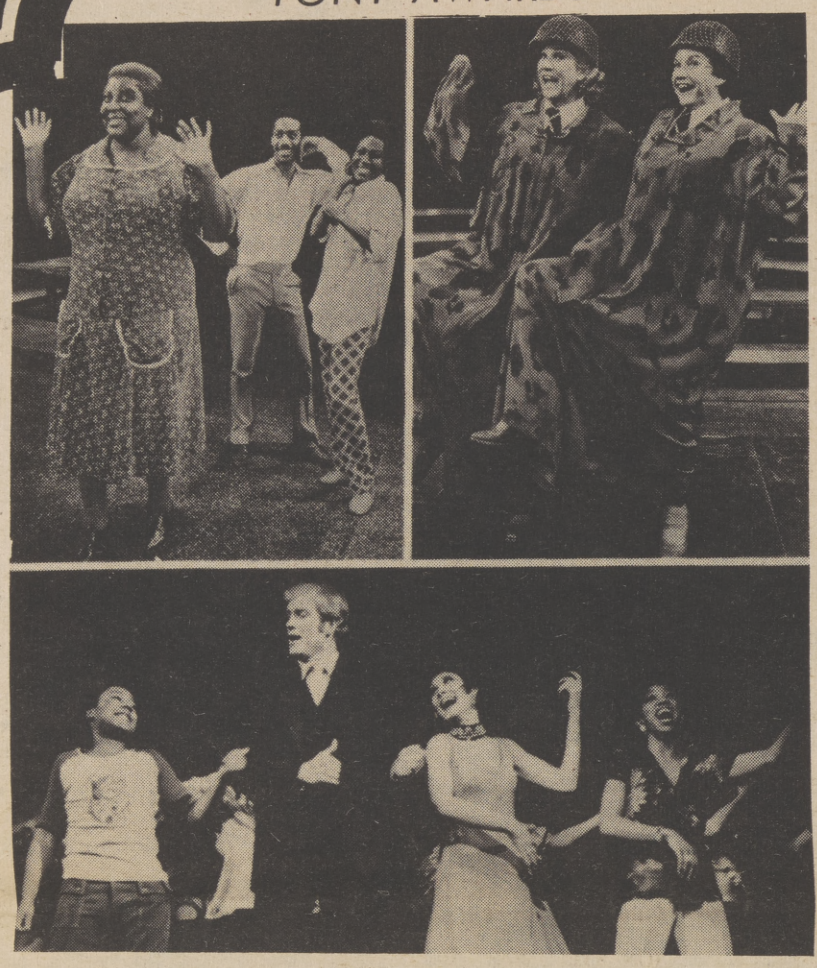
The album should prove to be particularly pleasurable to those who are not yet ready to concede to electronically altered music. Art Blakey is not into wah-wah pedals, synthesizers and the like.

In a word, Art Blakey is a purist.

Of course I suppose if there is any problem with the album it is with its name as far as trying to figure out what "Anthenagin" is was, is or will be. Fret not, however, for "Anthenagin" is pronounced exactly as if it were And Then Again - which is what it is."

BLACKS ON TV

TONY AWARDS



Which play will win the Tony Award? These three musicals have been nominated for the coveted Tony . . . top left to right, "Raisin," starring left to right, Virginia Capers, Joe Morton and Ernestine Jackson; "Over Here," with the Andrew Sisters, Patty and Maxine; and bottom, "Seesaw," with, left to right, Ken Howard and Michele Lee. The winners of the 28th Annual Tony Awards will be announced on a special ABC Television Network presentation on Sunday, April 21, 9:00 - 11:00 p.m.

THE URBAN LEAGUE PRESENTS:

13 KOVR
McCLATCHY BROADCASTING

DELORES BRYANT AND GUESTS

CLYDE RAINWATER Assoc. Administrative Analyst County of Sacramento

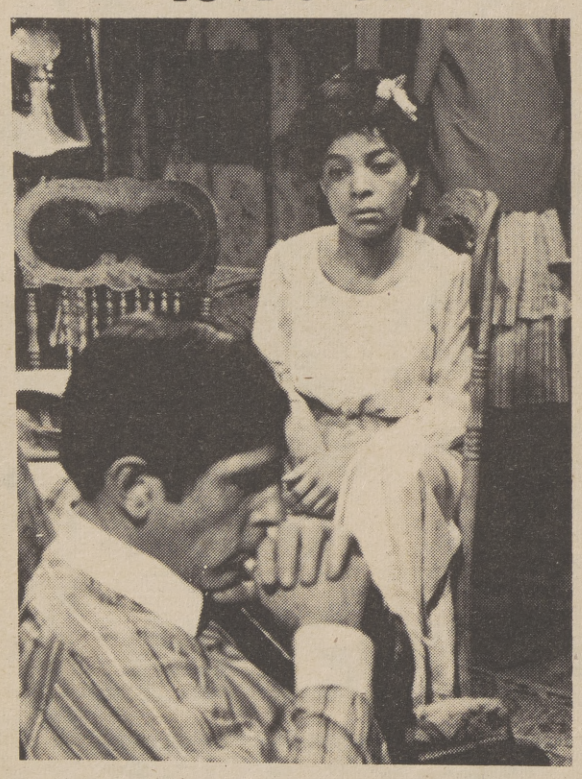
MIKE SWANSON Personel Director Harrah's Tahoe

OSCAR STARKS Employment Rep., Sacto. Urban League

EASTWIND Music Entertainment

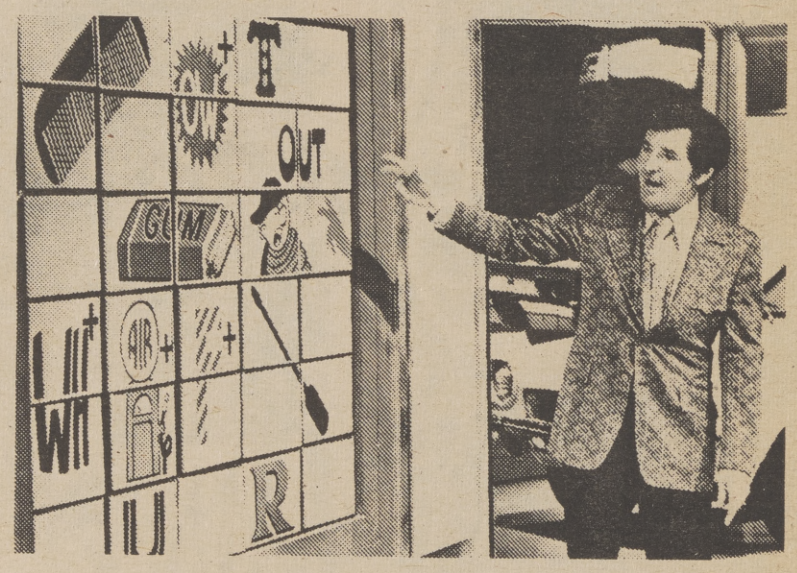
SUNDAY, 11 30 a.m.

LOVE STORY



"Wedding Band," is a love story - but even people in love have serious problems. Ruby Dee and J. D. Cannon star in this dramatic story, the next presentation on the "ABC Theatre" series of specials. "Wedding Band" will air on Wednesday, April 24, 9:00 - 11:00 p.m., on the ABC Television Network, Channel 13.

Turn your head on.



Television's longest running game show will put your brain to work. See if you can outwit the contestant when Jack Narz hosts Concentration.

CONCENTRATION
Mon-Fri 7pm

KXTV 10

THIS WEEK

The Sacramento Observer presents this viewing guide each week in hopes of increasing your video awareness. Your comments, and suggestions, are our guide for presenting this information. Please drop us a line to let us know how you feel about "Blacks on TV.

SATURDAY

APRIL 13

NBA PLAY-Off - Special: At press time, CBS planned to telecast the seventh game, if necessary, in the Pistons-Bulls or Lakers-Bucks series, on Channel 10, at 10:30 a.m.

BASEBALL PRE-GAME SHOW - On Channel 3, at 11:00 a.m.

BASEBALL - The Detroit Tigers meet the Red Sox at Boston, on Channel 3, at 11:15 a.m.

AMERICAN BANDSTAND - On Channel 13, at 12 Noon.

EASTER IS - Special: An animated story about Benji, a boy desperately searching for his stolen dog, with Leslie Uggams, on Channel 13, at 2:00 p.m.

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 3:00 p.m.

GREATEST SPORTS LEGENDS - A profile of Elgin Baylor, one of the most gifted forwards in the history of pro basketball, on Channel 13, at 3:30 p.m.

JIMMY DEAN - On Channel 3, at 4:00 p.m.

WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS - On Channel 13, at 5:00 p.m.

WORLD AT WAR - On Channel 10, at 7:00 p.m.

EMERGENCY! - On Channel 3, at 8:00 p.m.

ALL IN THE FAMILY - On Channel 10, at 8:00 p.m.

M*A*S*H - On Channel 10, at 8:30 p.m.

MOVIE - Drama, "Money to Burn," with Cleavon Little, on Channel 13, at 8:30 p.m.

CAROL BURNETT SHOW - With The Ernest Flatt Dancers, on Channel 10, at 9:30 p.m.

EASTER WITH ORAL ROBERTS - Special: Tennesse Ernie Ford and Los Angeles Mayor, Thomas Bradley, help Oral Roberts observe the holiday, on Channel 13, at 10:00 p.m.

SUNDAY

APRIL 14

FEAST OF LIFE - On Channel 10, at 7:00 a.m.

ORAL ROBERTS - On Channel 13, at 8:30 a.m.

CAMPUS PERSPECTIVE - On Channel 3, at 9:00 a.m.

KATHRYN KUHLMAN - On Channel 10, at 9:00 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY MASS - Special: Easter services from the Nation's Capital, on Channel 3, at 10:00 a.m.

NBA PLAY-OFF - Special: The seventh game, if necessary, in the Braves-Celtics series, on Channel 10, at 10:00 a.m.

URBAN LEAGUE PRESENTS - On Channel 13, at 11:30 a.m.

YOU ASKED FOR IT - A look at the saucer-lipped Ubangi women of Africa, on Channel 3, at 7:00 p.m.

OZZIE'S GIRLS - Starring Brenda Sykes, on Channel 10, at 7:00 p.m.

MONDAY

APRIL 15

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 10:00 a.m.

LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE Starring Mike Evans, and Brenda Sykes, on Channel 13, at 11:00 a.m.

PASSWORD With Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 12 Noon.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL - On Channel 13, at 1:30 p.m.

PRICE IS RIGHT - On Channel 10, at 2:00 p.m.

NEWLYWED GAME - On Channel 13, at 2:00 p.m.

MATCH GAME - With Chelsea Brown, on Channel 10, at 2:30 p.m.

MERV GRIFFIN - With guest Dionne Warwicke, on Channel 13, at 3:30 p.m.

SESAME STREET - On Channel 6, at 4:00 p.m.

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 5:30 p.m.

LAW FOR THE '70s - On Channel 6, at 6:30 p.m.

CONCENTRATION - On Channel 10, at 7:00 p.m.

ROOKIES - Starring Georg Stanford Brown, and Robert Hooks, on Channel 13, at 8:00 p.m.

MOVIE - Musical, "The Singing Nun," starring Debbie Reynolds, and Juanita Moore, on Channel 10, at 11:30 p.m.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - Starring Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 11:30 p.m.

TUESDAY

APRIL 16

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 10:00 a.m.

PASSWORD - With Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 12 Noon.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL On Channel 13, at 1:30 p.m.

PRICE IS RIGHT On Channel 10, at 2:00 p.m.

NEWLYWED GAME - On Channel 13, at 2:00 p.m.

MATCH GAME - With Chelsea Brown, on Channel 10, at 2:30 p.m.

MERV GRIFFIN - With guests Ben Vereen, and The Staple Singer, on Channel 13, at 3:30 p.m.

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 5:30 p.m.

MAUDE - Starring Esther Rolle, on Channel 10, at 8:30 p.m.

BLACK JOURNAL - On Channel 6, at 9:00 p.m.

POLICE STORY - Starring Fred Williamson, and Chelsea Brown, on Channel 3, at 10:00 p.m.

CONCENTRATION - On Channel 10, at 7:00 p.m.

THE NEW PRICE IS RIGHT - On Channel 10, at 10:30 p.m.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - Starring Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 11:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 17

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 10:00 a.m.

PASSWORD - With Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 12 Noon

PRICE IS RIGHT - On Channel 10, at 2:00 p.m.

MATCH GAME - With Chelsea Brown, on Channel 10, at 2:30 p.m.

ABC AFTERSCHOOL SPECIAL - Drama - Red Buttons plays "Alexander," a retired clown and taleteller with a great love for children, on Channel 13, at 5:00 p.m.

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 5:30 p.m.

CONCENTRATION - On Channel 10, at 7:00 p.m.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - Starring Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 11:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

APRIL 18

SESAME STREET - On Channel 6, at 9:00 a.m.

ELECTRIC COMPANY - at 10:00 a.m. On Channel 6,

LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE George Kirby, on Channel 13, at 11:00 a.m.

LET'S MAKE A DEAL - On Channel 13, at 1:30 p.m.

PRICE IS RIGHT - On Channel 10, at 2:00 p.m.

NEWLYWED GAME - On Channel 13, at 2:00 p.m.

MATCH GAME - With Chelsea Brown, on Channel 10, at 2:30 p.m.

FLIP WILSON SHOW - Bill Cosby, is the guest, on Channel 3, at 8 p.m.

IRONSIDE - Starring Don Mitchell, on Channel 3, at 9:00 p.m.

MUSIC COUNTRY, U.S.A. - Starring Dionne Warwicke, on Channel 3, at 10:00 p.m.

STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO - Crime drama about violent crimes against two very different victims. The man found knifed is a rich foreign businessman, the one shot in a phone booth is a poor Black police - informer, on Channel 13, at 10:00 p.m.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - Starring Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 11:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

MATCH GAME - With Rosey Grier, on Channel 10, at 2:30 p.m.

MERV GRIFFIN - With guest, Billy Eckstine, on Channel 13, at 3:30 p.m.

ELECTRIC COMPANY - On Channel 6, at 5:30 p.m.

CONCENTRATION - On Channel 10, at 7:00 p.m.

SANFORD AND SON - Starring Redd Foxx and Demond Wilson, on Channel 3, at 8:00 p.m.

BOB HOPE - "Thanks for The Memories" - Special with George Foreman scheduled to help Bob wind up his 24th TV season, on Channel 3, at 8:30 p.m.

GOOD TIMES - Comedy, with Esther Rolle and John Amos, on Channel 10, at 8:30 p.m.

PILOT FILM - Comedy-drama. Special: Set in a ragged section of London, with Hari Rhodes, on Channel 10 at 9:00 p.m.

DEAN MARTIN - With special guest Nipsey Russell, on Channel 3, at 10:00 p.m.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - Starring Greg Morris, on Channel 13, at 11:30 p.m.

SALUTE TO THE TONY AWARDS - On Channel 13, at 1:30 a.m.

MIDNIGHT SPECIAL - With Curtis Mayfield, and Gladys Knight and The Pips, on Channel 3, at 1:00 a.m.

MUSIC PERSONALITIES

Miller London Promoted At Motown

LONDON

Miller London has been promoted to the position of National Singles Sales Manager for Motown Records and its affiliate labels, it has been announced by Mike Lushka, Motown's National Sales Manager.

London, a native Detroiter who attended Wayne State University, has worked in various positions in his five years with Motown, most recently as assistant National Singles Sales Manager.

In his new position, London will be responsible for the sales of all single records to Motown distributors. The new Singles Sales Manager reports directly to the National Sales Manager, and the appointment is effective immediately.

'IT'S SO NICE'

Soul veteran Arthur Conley, is pictured giving the glad hand to Capricorn Records' Executive Vice President, Frank Fenter, on the occasion of his re-signing with the Macon-based Warner Bros. - distributed label. The "Sweet Soul Music" man has spent the last two years performing in Europe and Africa at club and concert dates. Capricorn has just released the first fruit of its renewed relationship with Conley, a single titled "It's So Nice (When It's Somebody Else's Wife.") The single was produced by Jerry "Swamp Dogg" Williams, and recorded at Capricorn Sound in Macon.

ALBUM COVER

PLAYOFF ALBUM: THE DELLS V.S. THE DRAMATICS

With Stevie Wonder, Gladys and her Pips, and Roberta Flack walking off with all of the top honors in popular music this year, it was clearly demonstrated for even the most die-hard holdouts that what used to be called "R&B," has clearly established itself as perhaps the most single influential entity in world music today.

And for veteran singing groups like the Dells and the Dramatics, this recognition is long overdue.

For it was groups like the Dells - veterans of over twenty years, and the Dramatics, who have been together ten years - who for years provided the kind of harmony and polished style that has made their kind of music the force it is today.

The two groups have now combined this thirty years in the record business to complete an historical album for the Cadet label entitled "The Dells vs. the Dramatics."

Unlike the title implies, there is no adversity on the album, but instead the best qualities that both groups possess are brought to the fore.

Don Davis, who produced the album along with Tony Hester, said in an interview that he was "pleased with the results of the meeting in the studio of the two groups."

NEW LP RELEASES

THESE RECORDS ARE AVAILABLE AT ANY OF COLE'S VARIETIES 3 LOCATIONS

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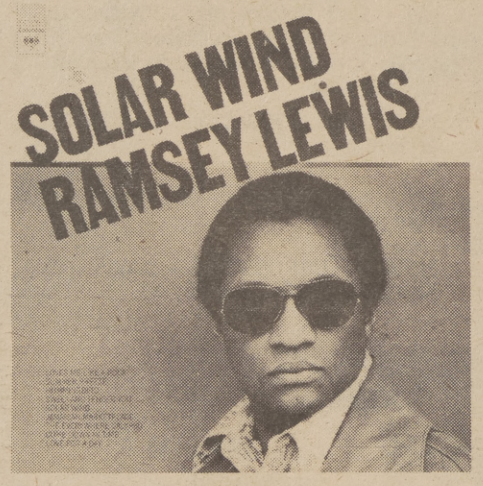
PART OF THE SEARCH

RAMSEY LEWIS



SOLAR WIND

GLORIA SCOTT

WHAT AM I GONNA DO

5817 Watt Ave.
N. Highlands
331-6547

3900 Broadway,
Sacramento
457-1835

2442 South Airport Way, Stockton
463-1169

Ronnie Dyson Sings His Own Soul

Although still a young man in his early twenties, singer Ronnie Dyson has rapidly established a reputation for himself as not only a smooth, well-groomed supper club performer, but also as one of the best ballad singers in the business.

But there are other sides of Dyson as well.

Parts of these other sides were demonstrated recently with the release of his latest single on the Columbia Record label entitled "We Can Make It Last Forever."

"We Can Make It Last Forever," departs somewhat from his previous releases in that it has more of a "yet down" quality to it.

"I wanted to try something a little different this time out," Dyson said in an interview from his Brooklyn apartment. "I wanted to get a little more of an R&B feeling into the cut."

Dyson indicated that what he was doing with his latest single was not a radical change from what he was doing in the past, but was only an "extension of past efforts."

"A great many people," he said, "have me identified as solely a singer of a certain type of song that is not necessarily considered soul. But, while I don't shout that loud, I do sing soul.

"But, as many performers today are pointing out, the clear cut distinctions between music no longer exists. The way things are today, almost everyone who sings anything, is in essence, a soul singer. You dig?"

Before he excused himself to go outside and do some jogging, Dyson said that he felt that his latest effort would do well.

"Because of the up-tempo, a great many young people will buy the single. And, we hope, a great many older folks as well."

RONNIE DYSON

Check Out The O'Jays

In the April issue of Essence Magazine, writer Vernon Gibbs, turns on to the O'Jays, one of the hottest Black male vocal groups around today, and discovers that their road to success has been an uphill climb all the way - it took hard work, patience, and togetherness within the group, consisting of lead singer, Eddie Lavert, Walter Williams, and William Powell.

"We knew we had something going and all we needed was the record, which is hard to come by."

It all began to happen for them when they got together with Gamble and Huff who produced the versatile group and returned them to the spotlight with "One Night Affair," and "Deeper In Love With You." Their second Gamble-Huff album, "Backstabbers," assured them success; from it came such incredible tunes as "Love Train," "Backstabbers," "Sunshine," and "Time To Get Down," accounting for three gold and one platinum singles from that one album.

"There was never any doubt we had the talent," says Eddie, remembering the lull in their career that followed hits like "I'll Be Sweeter Tomorrow," and "Look Over Your Shoulder."

"But," says Walter Williams, "the collaboration with Gamble-Huff did it; they have a unique producing style, they know what they want to hear and how to get it out of you. And, with our latest album, 'Ship Ahoy,' they out-did themselves." Essence entertainment writer, Gibbs says, "the O'Jays have definitely arrived on the music scene and seem to be getting down more and more with each new release."

Check them out!

THE O'JAYS

Harrah's
Reno and Lake Tahoe

LIZA
Thru April 17
At Tahoe

Coming:
HERB ALPERT
& The Tijuana Brass
April 18 thru May 2

VIKKI CARR
Thru April 17
In Reno

Coming:
DIONNE WARWICKE
April 18 thru May 1

24-Hour, 7-day reservation service toll free: 800/648-3773
Show Times: 8:15 p.m. & 12 midnight Seating: 6 p.m. & 11 p.m.
Tahoe Sunday Show: 6 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Film On Father Devine

That venerable and stately gentleman who inspried millions in pre-World War II America with his "Peace Philosophy," who taught "peace is wonderful and life is wonderful" will soon have his life story made into a motion picture.

George Taker or, Father Divine, as he was called by his followers was born the son of a slave. But when he died in Philadelphia in 1965 at the age of about 100, eighteen secretaries stood ready to record his last words.

George Greiff, one of the leading pop music managers in the business will make his debut as a movie producer with a film about George Taker, the son of a slave who became "Father Divine."

Greiff is completing production details for "Father Divine" in Europe. He said that Divine probably came from the American South where he may have been a preacher. However, the film will probably take up on his arrival in New York amid the racial and class hostility of the time.

Divine's lifestyle is legendary. According to Greiff, he had a Dusenberg, "the ultimate status symbol of the time," a private plane, and an army of secretaries always in attendance to record his every word for his own newspaper. The secretaries wore sweaters with a "V" for virgin.

Divine's motto was "Father will provide" and, according to Greiff, he did.

"You could go to a Father Divine restaurant and eat for very little all the chicken you wanted. His world-wide Kindgom of Peace was functioning with armies of disciples -- he estimated them at 20 million."

Divine's followers were much like members of the Nation of Islam today in that they were extremely neat and clean and anyone who bought at their shops or pushcarts knew he would get a fair deal.

A brilliant organizer, it is said that Divine helped Fiorella La Guargia get elected mayor of New York City and Franklin D. Roosevelt get elected governor.

He was investigated many times by the income tax people but always came up clean. One woman investigator even joined the movement and is still in it.

Greiff describes him as "an American folk hero." "Some of our information has come from his white Canadian wife, Edna Rose Kitchings, who was 22 when they married. He was about 70 but Father Divine always said it was a spiritual union," said Greiff.

When reporters and others would demand, "Are you God?" Divine invariably would answer: "People say I am God."

In 1931 he was fined and sentenced in Sayville, N.Y. on the grounds he had committed a public nuisance because so many Harlem poor had arrived to share in the open hospitality of his dinner table.

Four days later the sentencing judge died suddenly.

When they brought the news to his cell, Father Divine shook his head sadly: "I hated to do it," he said.

'WEDDING BAND'

Each year, for ten years, Herman (J. D. Cannon) has baked a lovely cake for their celebration - this year Julia (Ruby Dee), thinks it's the best cake he's ever baked . . . on "Wedding Band," a love story to be presented as the next "ABC Theatre," production on Wednesday, April 24, 9:00 - 11:00 p.m., on the ABC Television Network, Channel 13.

SURPRISE PARTY

Rufus Thomas is shown with his daughter, Carla Thomas, who hosted a surprise birthday party with the Stax Organization for the 57-year-old entertainer. The party was held at the Pied Piper Club in Los Angeles. KABC-TV in Los Angeles, covered the event for their "I am Somebody Show."